ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An integrated circuit, a client computer system, and a method for using a watchdog timer as a check before changing the system state of a computer system. The integrated circuit includes a first bus interface logic for coupling to a first external bus, a watchdog timer, and

5 logic configured to receive a request for a system reset. The watchdog timer is coupled to receive a reset input upon a predetermined change in a system state. The watchdog timer is further configured to provide an indication in response to an expiration of the watchdog timer. The logic is configured to query the watchdog timer for the expiration of the watchdog timer in response to receiving the request for the system reset.

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